

1753



Docket No. 22750/350

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Peter PFEUFFER

Serial No.: 08/900,254

Filing Date: July 25, 1997

For: FILTER MATERIAL, METHOD
OF ITS MANUFACTURE, AND
APPARATUS FOR
MANUFACTURING A FILTER
MATERIAL

Group Art Unit: 1733

Examiner: Yao, S.

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on

Date: August 23, 2002 Reg. No. 31,792

Signature:  Richard M. Rosati

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AMENDMENT

In response to the Office Action dated May 28, 2002, please amend the above-referenced patent application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

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1. (Twice Amended) A method for manufacturing a pleated filter material from a thermally bonded non-woven fabric, comprising :

forming a single fibrous web from undrawn and fully drawn synthetic fibers;

calendering the single fibrous web in a single calendering step, wherein during the single calendering step, the undrawn fibers in the single fibrous web are bonded in a tension-free manner between profiled calender rolls to form the non-woven fabric, without inhomogeneities over the cross-section of the non-woven fabric and without the use of flat bonding, and wherein during the single calendering step, spacers are formed in the non-woven fabric to thereby form the filter material.